ABSTRACT

A method and system for optically sensing the presence of an object on a conveyor is disclosed. Light reflected from an object transported on a conveyor is detected utilizing one or more optical components when the object enters a sensing zone. The reflected light can then be conditioned to provide a valid output signal, which is utilized to provide controlling information necessary to route the object to a proper location and prevent damage to the object from other objects as the object is being transported upon the conveyor. Optical components can be arranged so the light is reflected when the object enters the sensing zone, and this reflected light is then detected and conditioned to provide a valid output signal. Various lens devices and optical alignment arrangements permit control over the minimum and maximum sensing distance. An optical emitter, optical receiver, and/or one or more associated optical lenses may be connected by to a distributed controller.

Patent Application Publication